

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for providing media content on a network~~ comprising:

one or more servers configured to:

generate an interface at a site on a [[said]] network for display on a user computer, a plurality of media files provided by a plurality of media file more than one content providers being made available to said user computer via said network site using said interface;

define a set of metadata attributes relating to said media files, each of said metadata attributes of the set is to be displayed in a respective predetermined specific location in said interface regardless of media file or media file provider;

receive said [[a]] plurality of media files provided by said more than one content plurality of media file providers via the network, the received media files for use with said interface;

associate metadata attributes from the set of metadata attributes with each of said received media files; and

map each of said associated metadata attributes to its [[a]] respective predetermined location in said interface, so that in said interface for said user each of said associated metadata attributes appears at its respective predetermined location in said interface for all [[each]] of said received media files and of said plurality, the respective predetermined location for a given metadata attribute is a same location in said interface regardless of the content providers providing said received media file[[s]] providers,

wherein said interface comprises:

a channel description portion comprising one or more channel selections to access the plurality of media files provided by the plurality of media file providers;

a show description portion to display one or more show selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more channel selections said show description portion displays one or more show selections corresponding to the chosen channel selection; and

an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the one or more servers are further configured to generate a media player interface for experiencing the media content.
4. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for providing media content in a network~~ comprising:
one or more servers configured to:

defining a set of metadata attributes relating to a plurality of media files, each of said metadata attributes in the set is to be displayed in a respective predetermined location in an interface, said respective predetermined location for a given metadata attribute being a same location in said interface regardless of media file or media file provider;

associate metadata attributes from within said [[a]] defined set of metadata attributes with said [[a]] plurality of media files, ~~wherein said plurality of media files is provided by a plurality of media file more than one content providers via said network;~~

utilize the metadata attributes to map the plurality of media files to an interface, said interface generated at a site on said network, said media files being made available to a user computer via said network site using said interface; and

map each of said associated metadata attributes to its [[a]] respective predetermined location in said interface, such that in said interface each of said associated media attributes appears in its respective predetermined same location ~~in said interface~~ for all [[each]] of said ~~received~~ media files ~~and of said plurality, the respective predetermined location for a given~~

~~metadata attribute is a same location in said interface regardless of the content providers providing said media file[[s]] file providers,~~

wherein said interface comprises:

a channel description portion comprising one or more channel selections to access the plurality of media files provided by the plurality of media file providers;

a show description portion to display one or more show selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more channel selections said show description portion displays one or more show selections corresponding to the chosen channel selection; and

an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 4 further comprising[[::]] a local database for storing the metadata attributes.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently Amended) A method ~~executable by at least one server of providing media content to a plurality of users over a network~~ comprising:
 - compiling a data file that contains one or more unique identifiers which identify one or more media files;
 - determining whether a user-selectable autoplay function is engaged for a given one of said plurality of users;
 - in a case that the autoplay function is determined to be engaged, determining a sequence in which said user is to experience media content corresponding to one or more media files based on an ordering of said unique identifiers in the data file; and
 - in a case that the autoplay function is determined to be disengaged, determining the sequence in which said user is to experience media content corresponding to said

one or more media files based on input from the user and without regard to the ordering of said unique identifiers in the data file,

wherein said media content is experienced using an interface that comprises:

a channel description portion comprising one or more channel selections to access the plurality of media files provided by the plurality of media file providers;

a show description portion to display one or more show selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more channel selections said show description portion displays one or more show selections corresponding to the chosen channel selection; and

an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the data file is automatically compiled based on some criteria.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the data file is automatically compiled based on criteria chosen by one of the plurality of users.
10. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the data file is compiled manually.
11. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the one or more media files are provided by more than one source.
12. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for providing media content to a plurality of users~~ comprising:
one or more servers configured to:
compile a data file that contains one or more unique identifiers which identify one or more pieces of content;

determine whether a user-selectable autoplay function is engaged for a given one of said plurality of users;

in a case that the autoplay function is determined to be engaged, determine a sequence in which said user is to experience media content corresponding to said one or more pieces of content based on an ordering of said unique identifiers in the data file; and

in a case that the autoplay function is determined to be disengaged, determine the sequence in which said user is to experience media content corresponding to said one or more pieces of content based on input from the user and without regard to the ordering of said unique identifiers in the data file,

wherein said media content is experienced using an interface that comprises:

a channel description portion comprising one or more channel selections to access the plurality of media files provided by the plurality of media file providers;

a show description portion to display one or more show selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more channel selections said show description portion displays one or more show selections corresponding to the chosen channel selection; and

an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the data file is automatically compiled.
14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13 wherein the data file is automatically compiled based on criteria chosen by one of the plurality of users.
15. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the data file is compiled manually.

16. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the one or more media files are provided by more than one source.
17. (Currently Amended) A tangible computer-readable medium storing comprising computer code ~~for providing content to a user over a network, the computer code to~~ to configure one or more processors to:
 - compile a data file that contains one or more unique identifiers which identify one or more pieces of content;
 - determine whether a user-selectable autoplay function is engaged for a given one of said plurality of users;
 - in a case that the autoplay function is determined to be engaged, determine a sequence in which said user is to experience media content corresponding to said one or more pieces of content based on an ordering of said unique identifiers in the data file; and
 - in a case that the autoplay function is determined to be disengaged, determine the sequence in which said user is to experience media content corresponding to said one or more pieces of content based on input from the user and without regard to the ordering of said unique identifiers in the data file,
wherein said media content is experienced using an interface that comprises:
 - a channel description portion comprising one or more channel selections to access the plurality of media files provided by the plurality of media file providers;
 - a show description portion to display one or more show selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more channel selections said show description portion displays one or more show selections corresponding to the chosen channel selection; and
 - an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.

18. (Cancelled)
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said metadata attributes comprise a title for the media file.
21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said metadata attributes comprise a description for the media file.
22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said metadata attributes comprise a duration for the media file.
23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said metadata attributes comprise an expiration date for the media file.
24. (Currently Amended) A method ~~executable by one or more servers of providing media content in a network comprising the steps of:~~
generating an interface at a site on a [[said]] network for display on a user computer, a plurality of media files provided by more than one content provider being made available to said user computer via said network site using said interface;
authenticating said user's authorization to access certain media content;
defining a set of metadata attributes relating to said media files, each of said metadata attributes of the set is to be displayed in a respective predetermined specific location in said interface regardless of the media file or media file provider;
receiving a plurality of media files provided by said more than one content provider via the network, the received media files for use with said interface, wherein said plurality of media files comprises only the user's authorized media content;
associating metadata attributes from the set of metadata attributes with each of said received media files, wherein the metadata attributes comprises a title for each media file; and

mapping each of said associated metadata attributes to its [[a]] respective predetermined location in said interface, so that in said interface ~~for said user~~ each of said associated metadata attributes appears at its respective predetermined location in said interface for all [[each]] of said ~~received~~ media files and ~~of said plurality, the respective predetermined location for a given metadata attribute is a same location in said interface regardless of the content providers providing said received media file[[s]] providers,~~

wherein said interface comprises:

a channel description portion comprising one or more channel selections to access the plurality of media files provided by the plurality of media file providers;

a show description portion to display one or more show selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more channel selections said show description portion displays one or more show selections corresponding to the chosen channel selection; and

an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.

25. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for providing media content in a network~~ comprising: one or more servers configured to:

generate an interface at a site on a [[said]] network for display on a user computer, said interface comprising a region to display media content of a plurality of media files provided by ~~more than one~~ a plurality of media file content providers and being made available to said user computer via said network site, a region to display selectable indicia corresponding to one or more playlists, a region to display indicia of each of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists, and a region to display selectable indicia of an autoplay function configured to control an order in

which each of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists is to be experienced using said interface;

define a set of metadata attributes relating to said media files, each of said metadata attributes of the set is to be displayed in a respective predetermined specific location in said interface regardless of the media file or media file provider;

receive said plurality of media files provided by said plurality of media file providers via said network, the received media files for use with said interface;

associate metadata attributes from the set of metadata attributes with each of said received media files;

map each of said associated metadata attributes to its [[a]] respective predetermined location in said interface, so that in said interface for said user each of said associated metadata attributes appears at its respective predetermined location in said interface for all of said [[each]] media files and of said received media files of said plurality, the respective predetermined location for a given metadata attribute is a same location in said interface regardless of the content providers providing said received media file[[s]] providers,

wherein said interface comprises:

a channel description portion comprising one or more channel selections to access the plurality of media files provided by the plurality of media file providers;

a show description portion to display one or more show selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more channel selections said show description portion displays one or more show selections corresponding to the chosen channel selection; and

an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, wherein said autoplay function is configured to control whether said order in which each of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists is determined based on contents of said selected one of said playlists or based on user input.
27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein said user input comprises selection of one or more of said indicia of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists.
28. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for providing media content in a network~~ comprising:
one or more servers configured to:

define a set of metadata attributes relating to a plurality of media files, each of
said metadata attributes in the set is to be displayed in a respective
predetermined location in an interface, said respective predetermined
location for a given metadata attribute being a same location in said
interface regardless of media file or media file provider;
associate metadata attributes from within said [[a]] defined set of metadata attributes with said [[a]] plurality of media files, wherein said plurality of media files is provided by a plurality of media file more than one content providers;
utilize the metadata attributes to map the plurality of media files to an interface for display on a user computer, said interface generated at a site on said network and comprising a region to display media content of said plurality of media files, a region to display selectable indicia corresponding to one or more playlists, a region to display indicia of each media file identified by a selected one of said playlists, and a region to display selectable indicia of an autoplay function configured to control an order in which each media file identified by a selected one of said playlists is to be experienced using said interface; and

map each of said associated metadata attributes to its [[a]] respective predetermined location in said interface, such that in said interface each of said associated media attributes appears in its respective predetermined location ~~in said interface for all~~ [[each]] of said received media files and ~~of said plurality of media files, the respective predetermined location for a given metadata attribute is a same location in said interface regardless of the content providers providing said media file[[s]] providers,~~ wherein said interface comprises:

a channel description portion comprising one or more channel selections to access the plurality of media files provided by the plurality of media file providers;

a show description portion to display one or more show selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more channel selections said show description portion displays one or more show selections corresponding to the chosen channel selection; and

an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said autoplay function is configured to control whether said order in which each of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists is determined based on contents of said selected one of said playlists or based on user input.
30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, wherein said user input comprises selection of one or more of said indicia of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists.
31. (Currently Amended) A method ~~executable by at least one server of providing media content in a network comprising the steps of:~~

generating an interface at a site on a [[said]] network for display on a user computer, said interface comprising a region to display media content of a plurality of media files provided by ~~more than one~~ a plurality of media file content providers and being made available to said user computer via said network site, a region to display[[,]] selectable indicia corresponding to one or more playlists, a region to display indicia of each of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists, and a region to display selectable indicia of an autoplay function configured to control an order in which each of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists is to be experienced using said interface;

authenticating said user's authorization to access certain media content; defining a set of metadata attributes relating to said media files, each of said metadata attributes of the set to be displayed in a respective predetermined specific location[[s]] in said interface regardless of the media file or media file provider; receiving receive said plurality of media files for use with said interface; associating metadata attributes from the set of metadata attributes with each of said plurality of media files, wherein the metadata attributes comprises a title for each media file;

mapping each of said associated metadata attributes to its [[a]] respective predetermined location in said interface, so that in said interface each of said associated metadata attributes appears at its respective predetermined location in said interface for all of said each received media files and said of said plurality, the respective predetermined location for a given metadata attribute is a same location in said interface regardless of the content providers providing said received media file[[s]] providers; and

filtering said plurality of media files based on said user's authorization to access certain media content such that said user interface includes selectable indicia for only those media files corresponding to said certain media content,
wherein said interface comprises:

a channel description portion comprising one or more channel selections to access the plurality of media files provided by the plurality of media file providers;

a show description portion to display one or more show selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more channel selections said show description portion displays one or more show selections corresponding to the chosen channel selection; and

an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein said autoplay function is configured to control whether said order in which each of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists is determined based on contents of said selected one of said playlists or based on user input.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein said user input comprises selection of one or more of said indicia of said plurality of media files identified by a selected one of said playlists.
34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
determining media content other than said media content corresponding to said one or more media files for said user to experience while waiting for said user input.
35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein said one or more servers are further configured to:
determine media content other than said media content corresponding to said one or more media files for said user to experience while waiting for said user input.

36. (Previously Presented) The tangible computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the computer code further comprises computer code to configure one or more processors to: determine media content other than said media content corresponding to said one or more media files for said user to experience while waiting for said user input.

37. (New) A system comprising:
one or more servers configured to:
generate an interface at a site on a network for display on a user computer, media files provided by a plurality of media file providers being made available to said user computer via said network site using said interface;
define a set of metadata attributes relating to said media files, each of said metadata attributes of the set is to be displayed in a respective predetermined location in said interface regardless of media file or media file provider;
receive said a plurality of media files provided by said plurality of media file providers via the network, the received media files for use with said interface;
associate metadata attributes from the set of metadata attributes with each of said received media files; and
map each of said associated metadata attributes to its respective predetermined location in said interface, so that in said interface for said user each of said associated metadata attributes appears at its respective predetermined location in said interface for all of said media files and media file providers,
wherein said interface comprises:
a show description portion to display one or more show selections; and
an episode description portion to display one or more episode selections, and in response to a chosen one of the one or more show selections said episode description portion displays one or more episode selections corresponding to the chosen show selection.